

Serial No. : 10/694,327
Filed : October 27,2003

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A blood vessel knife, comprising:
a rod-shaped grip;

a cutter holder with a knife main body, the cutter holder being detachably attached to a tip portion of said rod-shaped grip;

a first bent portion formed on at least one end of the rod-shaped grip; and

a second bent portion formed on the cutter holder;

wherein said cutter holder engages with the tip portion of the rod-shaped grip from one side of either an inside or outside of the tip portion and projects from an opposite side of the tip portion; and an angle between the rod-shaped grip and the knife main body is changeable depending on whether the cutter holder is engaged with the tip portion from the inside or the outside of the tip portion; and

wherein a cutting edge of the knife main body is oriented upwardly with respect to a blood vessel to be cut.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) ~~The blood vessel knife as claimed in claim 4,~~ A blood vessel knife, comprising:

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a rod-shaped grip;

a cutter holder with a knife main body, the cutter holder being detachably attached to a tip portion of said rod-shaped grip; and

at least one of a first bent portion formed on one end of the rod-shaped grip and a second bent portion formed on the cutter holder, thereby creating a predetermined angle of the cutter main body with respect to said rod-shaped grip;

wherein said tip portion of the rod-shaped grip has a plate-like shape, and is provided with a long hole that penetrates through one side to another side of the tip portion at a central portion thereof and a slit at a tip thereof; and said cutter holder has a first engagement portion that engages with said long hole and a second engagement portion that is inserted in the slit, thereby attaching the cutter holder to the tip portion of the rod-shaped grip; and

wherein said cutter holder engages with the tip portion of said rod-shaped grip either from an inside or outside of the tip portion of the grip thereby changing the angle between said rod-shaped grip and said knife main body depending on whether said cutter holder is engaged from the inside or the outside of the tip portion.

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6. (currently amended) The blood vessel knife as claimed in ~~elaim 4~~ claim 5, wherein said angle between the grip and the knife main body is between 10° and 60°.

7. (currently amended) The blood vessel knife as claimed in ~~elaim 4~~ claim 5, wherein a cutter of said knife main body is formed linearly and oriented upwardly.

8. (currently amended) The blood vessel knife as claimed in ~~elaim 4~~ claim 5, wherein a distance from said first bent portion to said knife main body is approximately 3cm.